DISPERSANT DATA SUMMARY 6/10/10

Region 6:

- 313 samples have been submitted to date for analysis of dispersant parameters. The first samples were collected 5/11/10. Samples have been analyzed by EPA Houston and Accutest (R6 START lab).
  - EPA Houston reported 2 butoxyethanol, propylene glycol, and 2-propanol.
  - Accutest reported propylene glycol, 2 butoxyethanol, and 2 ethylhexyl alcohol.
- 31 of the 313 samples have been loaded into SCRIBE with final (validated) results.
- 73 of the 313 samples have been loaded into SCRIBE with preliminary results.
- 209 of the 313 do not have results available in Scribe.
- Requested parameters include:

Constituents being Analyzed:

Propylene glycol - (PG)
Di(2-ethylhexyl) sodium sulfosuccinate (reported as organic sulfonic acid salt) - (Org Salt) (DOSS)
2-propanol, 1-(2-butoxy-1-methylethoxyl) - (2P)
2-ethylhexyl alcohol - (2EA)
2-Butoxyethyl alcohol / 2-Butoxyethanol - (2BE)

- PG is being reported by Accutest by a modified SW8260 SIM analysis
- 2EA and 2BE are being reported by Accutest by a modified SW8015B analysis

Analytical Issues Being Confronted:

- Key issues and challenges include the following:
  - Confientinal Business Information issue delayed the use of commercial labs, but has been resolved.
  - The parameters are not routine for environmental samples and do not have published methods that have been studied and proven.
  - Standards for instrument calibration were difficult to locate.
  - The labs are having to develop methods to report these parameters and yet still provide analytical results while the methods are being refined.
  - There has not been an industry wide agreement for analysis of these parameters. If various labs are using different procedures, the results may not be comparable. Participating labs for government entities need to coordinate and share information.
  - Accutest is currently working to report the remaining two parameters – DOSS and 2P. They have standards and moving forward with development.
  - If the commercial labs were able to obtain some pure dispersant, it would help with proving the developed methods.
- Delays with the data are being encountered because the methods are not refined or even completely developed.

Results and Early Conclusions

- Results so far have been non-detect. We have not been able to see any detectable concentrations with the current methods.

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